

Message Text

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60

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 AF-10 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 RSC-01

SCI-06 AEC-11 SPM-01 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08 TAR-02

TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 FEA-02 OMB-01 SWF-02

DRC-01 /263 W

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R 301850Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9763

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 0867

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, GY

SUBJECT: UNGA 6TH SPECIAL SESSION- STEAMROLLER TACTICS

REF: STATE 104050

1. I HAD OPPORTUNITY MAY 30 TO REVIEW WITH FONMIN RAMPHAL THE POINTS CONTAINED REFTEL REGARDING OUR CONCERN OVER EMPLOYMENT BY NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE GROUP/GROUP 77 AT SPECIAL SESSION OF "AUTOMATIC MAJORITY."

2. IN GENERAL TERMS RAMPHAL SAID HE DID NOT THINK WE SHOULD REGARD THE RECENT UNGA SPECIAL SESSION AS INDICATIVE OF A TREND. RATHER HE FEELSTHAT BOTH THE CIRCUMSTANCES LEADING TO THE CONVOCAION OF THE SESSION AND WHICH PREVAILED DURING
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THE MEETING GAVE IT A CRISIS ATMOSPHERE WHICH IS NOT

CHARACTERISTIC OF UN. THE MID-EAST CONFLICT, THE OPEC CONFRONTATION AND THE COMBINED FOOD AND ENERGY SHORTGATES WHICH THE MAJORITY OF THE LDC'S WERE FACING COMBINED TO PUT HEAVY PRESSURE ON BOTH NACG AND 77 GROUP. HE SAID THAT ALONG WITH INDIA, YUGOSLAVIA AND OTHER MODERATES, GUYANA RECOGNIZED FROM OUTSET THE GRAVE RISK OF CONFRONTATION AND ENDEAVORED TO STEER ANTAGONISTS TOWARDS NEGOTIATION AND COMPROMISE. IN FINAL ANALYSIS, HOWEVER, THE BURDEN OF THIS EFFORT FELL ON ONE OR TWO LEADING FIGURES WHO "BECAME BRITTLE" UNDER INTENSE PRESSURES OF BOTH TIME AND CONFLICTING BASIC POSITIONS OF DC'S AND LDC'S.

3. RAMPHAL SAID THAT SITUATION WAS COMPLICATED BY DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN APPROACHES ADOPTED BY EUROPEANS AND US, WITH FORMER SHOWING CONSISTENTLY GREATER FLEXIBILITY THAN LATTER. THIS DIVERGENCE, HE WENT ON, WAS HEIGHTENED DURING CLOSING DAYS BY IMPRESSION THAT THERE WERE EVEN DIVERGENCIES WITHIN US DELEGATION. AS EXAMPLE HE CITED WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS RELATIVELY CONCILIATORY SPEECH ON CLOSING DAY BY SENIOR AMERICAN DELEGATE IN CONTRAST TO WHICH AMBASSADOR SCALI'S STATEMENT ACCOMPANYING FINAL VOTE APPEARED SURPRISINGLY HARD-LINE. HE ALSO COMMENTED THAT US DELEGATION APPEARED TO EXPERIENCE DELAYS AND DIFFICULTIES IN GETTING INSTRUCTIONS FROM WASHINGTON. HE SAID THAT HE HAD TRIED TO IMPRESS UPON US DELEGATES FROM THE BEGINNING THE NEED FOR NEGOTIATING FLEXIBILITY IN LIGHT OF THE PREVAILING MOOD AMONG NACG/77 GROUP. IN FINAL ANALYSIS RAMPHAL SAID THE MODERATES WITHIN NACG/77 GROUP FELT THAT US HAD COMMITTED ITSELF TO NEGOTIATION AND COMPROMISE ONLY TO BACK AWAY AT THE END AND LEAVE THE MODERATES WITH FEELING THEY HAD BEEN LED DOWN THE GARDEN PATH.

4. LOOKING AHEAD, RAMPHAL OBSERVED THAT USG SHOULD BE PREPARED TO DEAL WITH INCREASING NUMBER INITIATIVES EMANATING FROM LDC GROUPS. LATTER ARE NOW MORE COHESIVE AND ACTION-ORIENTED AND THIS WILL CALL FOR USG TO EXERCISE GREATER FLEXIBILITY. HE DOES NOT, HOWEVER, BELIEVE THAT LDC'S WILL CONSISTENTLY OPT FOR CONFRONTATION OR STEM-ROLLER TACTICS PROVIDED THEY CAN COUNT ON USG AND OTHER DC'S TO ENGAGE IN MEANINGFUL NEGOTIATION. KREBS

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